

Notice of Allowability

Application No.	Applicant(s)
10/755,711	TAKAHASHI ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit
Zarni Maung	2151

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the communication filed on November 13, 2007.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-3,8-9 (now renumbered claims 1-4).
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 1/9/04;4/15/04
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.



ZARNI MAUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER

This action is in response to the applicant's response to the restriction/election requirement filed on November 13, 2007. Claims 1-16 are pending. The applicant has elected the claims of Group II, claims 2-3 and 8-9 without traverse.

An examiner Amendment to the record appear below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. G. Gregory Schivley (Reg. No. 27,382) on January 25, 2008.

In the claims

Please cancel the non-elected claims 1,4-7, 10-16.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 2-3 and 8-9 are allowable over the prior art of record because none of the prior art of record teaches or fairly suggests all the limitations recited in the claims. Specifically, none of the prior art of record teaches or suggest an access control system comprising: a first network device group including a first representative network device and one or more dependent network devices; a second network device group including a second representative network device and one or more of said dependent network devices; and a device management terminal managing said network devices; wherein

said first and second representative network devices collect management information of a plurality of network devices including themselves in network device groups to which the representative network devices belong, and the management information collected by said first and second representative network devices is collected by said device management terminal; wherein said device management terminal comprises: an access timing table defining access timing for each of said representative network devices so that access from said first and second representative network devices to the device management terminal is dispersed; and a timing information notifying section notifying the representative network device of timing information indicating access timing corresponding to said representative network device with reference to said access timing table; wherein said dependent network devices comprise: a first management information storing section storing management information of the network device itself; and a first management information sending section sending management information of said first management information storing section to the representative network device of the network device group to which the network device itself belongs; and wherein said representative network devices comprise: a second management information storing section storing management information of said representative network devices and said dependent network devices; a management information receiving section receiving said management information; a management information registering section registering in said second management information storing section the management information received by said management information receiving section; a timing information receiving section receiving said timing information; and a

second management information section for sending management information of said second storing section to said device management terminal based on the timing information received by said timing information receiving section as set forth in the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zarni Maung whose telephone number is (571) 272-3939. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 to 5:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, John Follansbee can be reached at (571) 272-3964. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800/4700. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system, status information for published application may be obtained from either Private or Public PAIR, for unpublished application Private PAIR only (see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov> or the Electronic Business Center at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Hand carried or delivered to:

Customer Service Window located at the Randolph Bldg. 401
Dulany St. Alexandria, VA 22314

Faxed to the Central Fax Office:

(571) 273-8300 (New Central Fax No.)

Or Telephone

(571) 272-2100 for TC 2100 Customer Service Office.



ZARNI MAUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER